



# Colorado Crop Progress

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office  
P.O. Box 150969, Lakewood, CO 80215  
Phone 1-800-392-3202 · 1-800-643-6885  
e-mail: [nass-co@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-co@nass.usda.gov)

To access USDA-NASS reports <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

Released: April 23, 2012

Vol. 49 No. 7

**Agricultural Summary:** Colorado experienced scattered showers last week but still received below average precipitation with above average temperatures. Overall, mountain snowpack is 38 percent of average raising concerns about the availability of irrigation water this growing season. Farmers were allowed 6.3 days in the field for spring operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	13	37	50	0
Last Week	8	33	58	1
Last Year	29	37	31	3

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	14	42	44	0
Last Week	16	38	46	0
Last Year	31	36	30	3

**Small Grains:** Winter wheat progress increased to 52 percent jointed with the crop rated in mostly fair to good condition. The winter wheat reported being pastured remained at 1 percent. Spring barley was 60 percent seeded with 36 percent emerged by the end of the week compared with the 5-year average of 50 percent and 19 percent, respectively. Spring wheat was reported 57 percent seeded, 18 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, with 17 percent emerged at week's end.

**Row Crops:** Corn plantings increased to 10 percent planted with one percent emerged. Onion growers reported 88 percent of the acreage planted, 16 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. The planting of summer potatoes increased to 50 percent last week, 31 percentage points ahead of average with 3 percent emerged. Sugarbeet planting last week reached 45 percent planted with 2 percent up to stand.

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 22, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	2	13	41	38	6
Last Year	19	30	34	16	1

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range feed conditions improved slightly last week with the limited moisture, but remains in mostly fair to poor condition across the State. Twenty-two percent was rated good compared with 20 percent the previous week.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 22, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2012	7	28	43	22	0
Prev. Year - 2011	15	27	34	20	4
5-Year Avg.	8	20	38	32	2

**Livestock:** Eighty-four percent of cows have calved since January 1<sup>st</sup> while 80 percent of the ewes have lambled during the same time frame. Livestock condition remains in mostly good condition. Death losses for cattle and sheep were average. Stored feed supplies were rated average to short for this time of year.

## Spring 2012 Calving and Lambing

	2012	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	84	83
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	80	80

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending April 22, 2012

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Pastured	1	1	5	4
Jointed	52	33	25	30
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Seeded	60	50	51	50
Emerged	36	32	18	19
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Seeded	57	45	40	39
Emerged	17	12	9	12
<b>Corn</b>				
Planted	10	5	9	9
Emerged	1	N/A	0	0
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Planted	88	64	70	72
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Planted	45	28	17	32
Up to Stand	2	N/A	0	0
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Planted	50	35	17	19
Emerged	3	N/A	0	0

## COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Livestock</b>	0	3	23	68	6

1/ Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.